



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**JANUARY 8, 2004**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **ST. JOSEPH FELON SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF AMMUNITION**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a St. Joseph man was sentenced in federal court today for being a felon in possession of ammunition.

**Christopher A. Punzo**, 35, of St. Joseph, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this morning to two years and one month in federal prison without parole.

**Punzo** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of ammunition. By pleading guilty, he admitted that he was in possession of five rounds of Remington .38 caliber Short Colt ammunition on April 8, 2002. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Punzo** has a 1996 criminal felony conviction for stealing and a 1997 criminal felony conviction for tampering with an automobile.

**Punzo** was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on June 18, 2003, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Linda L. Sybrant. It was investigated by the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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